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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
Cornwall PL15 7AR

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2022 at 7.32pm in the Town Hall

- PRESENT** Cllrs Penhale (Town Mayor), Bailey (Deputy Mayor), Conway, Gilbert, Gordon, Harris, Heaton, Hogan, Nancarrow, Nolan, O'Brien, Soanes, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)
Cornwall Cllr Paynter
- 2203/48 Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Green and Bullen
- 2203/49 Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest
- 2203/50 Public Representation Session**
There were no matters raised
- 2203/51 To confirm and sign the Minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated**
It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes previously circulated;
(i) Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 15 February 2022 at 7.00pm
- 2203/52 To receive and adopt the minutes of committees and sub-committees, previously circulated**
It was **resolved** to receive and adopt the minutes of the following committees and sub-committees:
(i) Planning and Economic Development held on Thursday 24 February 2022 at 7.00pm
(ii) Library, Arts, Business and Information held on Tuesday 1 March 2022 at 5.15pm
- 2203/53 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**
Cornwall Cllr Paynter advised that investments in the town were now coming to fruition, especially the nature areas, and works for the new school were ongoing.

Cllr Penhale asked about contractual obligations in regards to the works at the school. Cllr paynter advised that there had been some delays but works were ongoing

Cllr Heaton spoke about reductions in budgets for social care, climate change proposals and other areas having reduced budgets or reductions in service. Cllr Paynter stated that there were ongoing issues and delays in social care practices due to the Covid pandemic and this has increased budget pressures

Cllr Tremain stated that some local councils had received car parks as part of devolution packages and asked if this could happen for Launceston and also asked for views on the proposal of a Mayor for Cornwall. Cllr Paynter said that some free use car parks had been devolved whilst others had been leased and said that he was against the proposal for a Mayor for Cornwall.

Cllr Conway stated that he was against the idea of an elected Mayor

Cllr Bailey said that a referendum should be held to decide if a Mayor for Cornwall is undertaken

Cllr Conway gave an update to advise that the bollards, as part of the town pedestrianisation, were being installed, that leisure centre contract talks were progressing. He also spoke about the Jubilee events that were planned, and that Welcome Back Fund events were taking place and ongoing. The Newport temporary traffic lights would need to return whilst scaffolding works were undertaken and a diversion route would be put in place.

Cllr Hogan asked if the proposed spacing for bollards within the town were correct. Cllr Conway advised that they were

Cllr O' Brien asked if scaffolding works could be carried out that did not involve road closures and a diversion.

Cllr Young raised concerns in regards to bus services that needed to use the proposed route

Cllr Penhale asked if air quality could be measured during the duration of the works

2203/54

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr Bailey gave details of the upcoming Chamber of Commerce AGM, and advised that following a first aid course it was noted that there is no defibrillator facility at Pennygillam

Cllr Harris advised that he had attended a Street Pastors meeting and a meeting with the town CCTV provider, where it was noted that there is an issue with the CCTV in the castle grounds. It was requested that a relay be positioned at the Town Hall

Cllr Heaton gave an update on Integrated Care and advised that new policies had been agreed and the aim was to be patient focused. She also spoke about the work the library was doing in regards to social prescribing, but stated that there were issues with a lack of volunteers due to the rising cost of fuel. Cllr Heaton concluded by saying the leisure centre was an important facility in the town and provided important health benefits

Cllr Soanes raised the issue of uneven road and walkway surfaces at the entrance to the castle and proposed that works be undertaken at the site

Cllr O'Brien commented on damage that had occurred to the cemetery wall

Cllr Gilbert stated that there was an issue with the number of taxis parking in the town on occasion and that this led to vehicles parking in allocated loading bays

2203/55

Report from the Town Mayor

The Mayor's report was noted

2203/56

Report from the Town Clerk

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the report
- ii) support the proposal to install a memorial bench in Priory Park for Tony Taplin
- iii) agree the closure of the Imprest account with HSBC bank

2203/57

Lawrence House Museum

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Management and Liaison Committee be noted

2203/58

Mayor Elect 2022-23

It was **resolved** that Notices of Motion be used for nominations for Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the civic year commencing May 2022

2203/59

Transport Links

It was **resolved unanimously** that the Council explores the possibility of a road link from the north to south of the town and a rail link from Launceston to Tavistock, working in partnership with Cornwall Council and West Devon Borough Council

2203/60

Council Policies Update

It was **resolved** that;

- i) the continued use of BACS and CHAPS as suitable methods of payments for suppliers and salaries be agreed
- ii) the Operational and Financial Risk Assessment be agreed

2203/61

Correspondence and Matters to Note

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the venue usage
- ii) note the letter regarding the Council's St Piran's Day event
- iii) note the thanks from South Petherwin School for the St Piran's Day event

2203/62

Urgent Items

Cllr Penhale advised that the owner of the land at Kensey allotment wished to gift the site to the town

Cllr Gordon advised that he would provide an update in regards to the ongoing contract at the Leisure Centre, at the April meeting of Council

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be on Tuesday 26 April 2022 at 7pm

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Signed Date